



CDHH e-Newsletter

Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Director's Note: Mental Health and Deafness



As written on Idaho Code, CDHH's mission is: *"To create an environment in which Idahoans of all ages, who are deaf or hard of hearing, have an equal opportunity to participate as active, responsible, productive, and independent citizens of Idaho"* (Title 67 Chapter 73). CDHH is very vigilant in ensuring the existence of services that the deaf and hard of hearing citizens can utilize to enhance the quality of their lives. Unfortunately, we identified several services (both local and state-wide) that lack appropriate system to best serve deaf and hard of hearing populations. I would like to identify one of them: public mental health services.

Many people who are deaf or hard of hearing with mental illness have been a silent minority. Public mental health systems in Idaho by and large have done a poor job of responding to this population's needs despite the fact that its needs are the same as, or at times greater than, those of the general public. It is thus important for public mental health systems to recognize fully the presence and needs of consumers who are deaf and to provide services and supports tailored to their needs. For a long time, the mental health systems have assumed that interventions, techniques, and services that work for consumers in the general population are equally effective for consumers who are deaf. This problem involves much more than simply hiring interpreters. Many mental health needs among deaf customers in Idaho remain without any proper attention and care. A mental health researcher, A. Steinberg in 1991 published a finding: *"...given the paucity of resources accessible to hearing-impaired persons at this time, it is likely that more than **90 percent** of this population's mental health needs remain unserved..."* It is unacceptable that a large number of this population continues to be underserved.

One of the CDHH priorities set forth by the Council is to set up a mental health task force to address this solemn issue. CDHH will, shortly, be in the process of implementing and organizing the task force. The initial effort of this panel would likely be to identify the problems and barriers in the public mental health service delivery system, and recommend specific interventions, policy changes and systemic alterations to improve mental health services and program for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing and also have

Contact Us

www.cdhh.idaho.gov

208-334-0879 v

208-473-2122 vp/v

behavioral health problems.

In Idaho and elsewhere, state mental health agencies face the growing challenge of accommodating an increasingly diverse and evolving constituency. This calls to provide appropriate and accessible mental health services to all deaf and hard of hearing individuals—regardless of type of hearing loss, communication preferences, socioeconomic standing—challenges state mental health agencies to develop effective, culturally competent, and linguistically appropriate services and treatment methods.

It is my hope that this task force would assist state mental health agencies in moving toward public mental health service delivery systems that are appropriate and accessible to all of our deaf and hard of hearing citizens and customers. This will raise the environment into the higher level where deaf and hard of hearing people can enjoy the life Idaho has to offer.

Cheers,



Steven Snow
Executive Director

Meet Our New Board Members



David “Jerry” Wilding

Serving as a member who is deaf

Jerry was born in Rexburg, Idaho in 1937, last of 4 kids, including a deaf brother (George). Jerry attended Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind (ISDB) in Gooding, Idaho, graduating in 1955. Jerry graduated from Gallaudet University in 1960 with a major in Education. He served as class president during his junior year, Vice-President of Lambda Delta Sigma and a member of Kappa Gamma Fraternity at Gallaudet. He lettered in cross country, basketball and track and served as President of Block “G” Club (group for athletes).

At Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind, Jerry taught Science and coached track and field for 37 years. Jerry also coached boys and girls cross country

and basketball at ISDB. Jerry coached the United States National long distance men track team in the 1973, 1977, 1985, 1989 Deaflympics and served as head coach in 1997. He participated as a hurdler and triple jumper in the 1957 Deaflympics. Jerry was inducted into the Hall of Fame as a coach in Northwest Athletic Association of the Deaf and in the Deaf and American Athletic Association of the Deaf.

Jerry served as Principal of Jean Massieu School for the Deaf (JMS) in Riverton, Utah for one year. He has served as President of the Gooding LDS Church Deaf Branch twice from 1991 to 1995 and from 2005 to 2010.

Jerry has held the position of the President of Idaho Association of the Deaf (IAD) three times, and has held other IAD offices. He has been a member of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) for many years and served as a NAD delegate several times.

Jerry married Caldonia Della Williams of Arkansas, is the father of 9 deaf children, 17 grandchildren including 12 deaf and one great grandson.

Jerry is currently retired and enjoys doing several hobbies such as a curator of ISDB museum and volunteers at his church.



Dr. Richard G. Lee, MD

Serving as a member who is a physician

Dr. Richard G. Lee, an Idaho native, returns from his education and training as a specialist in pediatric ear, nose and throat conditions. He graduated from Albertson College of Idaho with a degree in Business Administration. He furthered his education at Creighton University School of Medicine where he received his medical degree. A General Surgery Internship and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Residency was completed at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Lee finalized his training at The Children's Hospital in Denver, Colorado completing a Pediatric Otolaryngology Fellowship. He has a focus in hearing restoration and has an association with Idaho State University to provide cochlear implant services to the region. In addition, Dr. Lee has a particular interest in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery. He has extensive training in the care of cleft lip and palate patients. Dr. Lee is a member of many local and national medical societies. He has published articles in multiple peer reviewed journals of his specialty. Dr. Lee is an active staff member at

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls.

The Council congratulates Jerry and Richard on their new appointments and is very enthusiastic to have them aboard.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students Performed at the Humanitarian Bowl on ESPN



By Janna Dunagan
Teacher for the Deaf at Rocky Mountain H.S.

When the opportunity presented itself, there was limited time to prepare. In three weeks time, the students had to be prepared to perform the National Anthem at the Humanitarian Bowl. They did not have a clue what they had signed up for or what an experience this would become. Letters were sent home to ensure that students could commit to the event requiring parents to sign off on permission slips to guarantee that their student would be involved. The commitment was made and the challenge was on. The teachers of the Meridian Joint School District Deaf and Hard of Hearing (D/HH) magnet program had to get all the students not only to learn, but sign the National Anthem simultaneously in front of the entire nation. The students, staff, and parents were up for the challenge! Students were given a recorded video clip with the anthem and were told that they had to have it memorized by our first evening practice (which was only a couple days away). A special thank you to Holly Thomas-Mowery and Patti Durham is in order. Patti Durham invited all of the students to perform and Holly Thomas-Mowery provided the video clip language sample. Thank you both very much!

After thirty hours of practice with all of us together, the video clip at home, and parents transporting the students to and from practice, the dress rehearsal was upon us. It was just a week before the actual performance! The students were fitted with uniforms and showed where they would be standing. One of the most well known places in Idaho is the blue turf at the Bronco Stadium! The students were ecstatic! When the students and staff walked on to the field, there were hundreds of people in place to practice for the pregame show. Huge banners were held up by children from the Boise and Nampa Boys and Girls Clubs, little flags were being waived by students from other local programs, and the United States of America's flag was marched down the 50 yard line by the armed forces. As the flag rippled in the wind, the student's hands rested at their side.

Right on cue the student's hands lifted as a young woman began to sing. The student's started to visually represent the story of the evening that our nations National Anthem originated. As parents and staff members watched the students at the dress rehearsal they knew that their commitment and hard work had been well worth it. As the song was coming to a close, all the students' hands were held in position to show the strength and bravery that our country endured that treacherous night. The bravery was also shown across all of their faces because they too had just accomplished an amazing task. Their confidence was high, they felt amazing, and they were ready for the big day.

On December 18, 2010 twelve students from the Meridian School District D/HH program proudly stood on the blue turf at the Bronco Stadium to perform. Before Fresno State and Central Illinois could faceoff, the students would take a deep breath and hope they would make an everlasting impression on the people in the stands. The fans were asked to stand to honor our nation's flag. The stadiums focus shifted toward the 50 yard line where the students were prepared to sign the National Anthem. The nationally televised Humanitarian Bowl was not just a day for football; it was the day that students were recognized for their language and culture.

As the anthem was being performed, a group of students ran behind the story being portrayed in the air with a gigantic American flag that was almost the length of the football field. Doves were released into the air and the Army National Guard's jets flew over the stadium and shook the ground beneath the blue turf. The students stood in their uniforms beaming from ear to ear due to the success they had just achieved. The students had the spotlight down on the blue and were also shown on the local news. The students made an everlasting impression on the thousands in the stands and forever in their teacher's hearts. Shown in the picture below are the students from Ponderosa Elementary, Sawtooth Middle School, and Rocky Mountain High School.



First live performance at a pep assembly in front of Sawtooth Middle School's entire student body!



**The Meridian School District Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program
uDrove Humanitarian Bowl Performers**

Back row left to right: Lena Solovey (8th grade), Madeline Holliday (8th grade), Ramiro Rodriguez (sophomore), Meseret Ricks (6th grade), Ricky Clark (junior), Andrea Dibben (8th grade), Michael Hyde (sophomore), Front row left to right: Senait Ricks, Julian Sanchez (6th grade), Joshua Urnenbach (6th grade), Harley Goldmann (Freshman), and Janel Ronneburg (6th grade).



The UDrove Humanitarian Bowl 2010 live on the blue at Bronco Stadium!

Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and Blind Updates

By Brian Darcy, Administrator

For those of you who are not familiar with IESDB, we are a unique school serving as a statewide purpose and as a local school district. Our focus is to provide a continuum of educational opportunities, services, and supports designed to ensure the children of Idaho (birth to age 21) who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Blind/Visually impaired or Deaf-Blind achieve their highest potential. The IESDB's board of directors consists of eight board members each specifically representing stakeholders from around the state. This 8-member board is governor appointed with the chair named in statute as the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The two main educational services offered through IESDB are our Outreach and Campus programs. Our Outreach program, which provides direct instruction and consulting services to every school district in the state, has seen an escalation in the last few years. This program has grown from serving 576 students to 765 students with a hearing loss statewide! Meanwhile, our campus program, which operates as a residential program and a day school, has seen a similar expansion. In May of 2007 our campus population was 66 students total. That number has increased to 86 students, of which, 51 have been identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

By way of introducing myself my name is Brian Darcy, I am the new administrator at the Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB). My educational background includes undergraduate studies at Creighton University and Carroll College in the area of psychology. My graduate studies have been at Idaho State University, in the area of Deaf Education and at Western Oregon State University, in the Rehabilitation Counseling, Deafness program. I have been a small business owner and worked as an employee of the state of Idaho. I even served as an ex-officio board member for CDHH for a few years. Prior to becoming the Administrator, my most recent position at IESDB was in the Outreach program as the Transition Specialist for Southwest and Northern Idaho.

In taking the helm of IESDB, I have to note how proud I am to work with this staff of educators and support personnel at the school and in all of our service areas. All of our staff truly have a dedication and commitment to their students which is second to none. The Greek Philosopher Heraclitus said "Nothing endures but change". This school has seen a lot of changes in the last several years. Five administrators in less than seven years and multiple budget cuts in state and federal monies have had very little impact to the quality service that this staff has given to the students in the state of Idaho.

This truly is a testament to the professionalism and the quality of the educators that work for IESDB. Our primary goal in the next year is to “steady the ship” and continue provide a strong educational foundation. We will look to redevelop lost connections with our alumni base, and make new connections with other agencies and groups who share a common interest in our student’s success. With this support we hope to be able to expand our curriculum to give our students the tools that they need to be successful in the 21st century.

So, what does the 21st century hold for students who graduate from IESDB or utilize our outreach services? We have agreed on one thing, that in a competitive job market, our graduates have to be ready. They have to have the skills and support which will help them take the next step to self-sufficiency. Our transition program is one piece of that puzzle. At school, our teachers focus on, budgeting, work skill development, independent living and other skills needed to be independent in their community. During their preparation, they are also introduced to a consultant who will work with the student in their hometown to access further job training and support from services such as Vocational Rehabilitation, CDHH, Department of Labor, and local college / trade schools.

One of the key components to our success at IESDB will be the continued partnerships with community groups. The ISDB Foundation, the Lion’s Club International, Elk’s B.P.O.E., the Rotary, Shriners clubs and many others have all contributed to our student’s success in many different forms. From paying for technology, donating time, sending kids to camp or providing hearing and vision screening at no cost to our kids or families, we have enjoyed their support and hope that you support them as well.

I cannot express enough how excited I am to be part of the team at IESDB. I hope that if you have an interest in finding out more about what IESDB has to offer or questions about our programs, you will contact me at our main office address: 1450 Main St. Gooding, ID 83330 or email me directly at brian.darcy@iesdb.org.

~GO RAPTORS!

News from Idaho Sound Beginnings

Notes on Early Hearing Detection and Intervention in Idaho

On December 22, President Obama signed the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Act of 2010 (H.R. 1246/S.3199). The legislation reauthorizes and expands EHDI legislation passed nearly 10 years ago, increasing state funding for follow-up services to ensure that babies initially identified with a potential hearing loss receive full diagnostic evaluations and,

if necessary, are enrolled in early intervention programs. The act also promotes culturally sensitive family support services.

In line with these expanded objectives, Idaho Sound Beginnings will be working to provide training and support to audiologists in the state in order to ensure that comprehensive pediatric hearing assessment services are available for all infants in Idaho.

The Early Childhood Hearing Outreach (ECHO) Project has come to Idaho. The National ECHO Initiative focuses on “echo-ing” successful newborn hearing screening efforts by extending the benefit of periodic hearing screening to children 0-3 years of age in a variety of settings including Early Head Start programs. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends periodic hearing screening between birth and school-age. Head Start Performance Standards also require that a hearing screening be conducted within the first 45 days of enrollment. Traditionally, they have had to depend on subjective hearing screening methods such as clapping, bell-ringing and parent questionnaires.

The ECHO Initiative worked with the Idaho EDHI program to provide hands on training in August to four Early Head Start programs on conducting periodic hearing screening. They also provided three OAE screeners to be used in these programs.

Idaho has a fairly high percentage of out of hospital births. Past efforts to provide hearing screening to these infants have focused on providing midwives with educational materials on newborn hearing screening and hoping that parents contact the number on the pamphlet and arrange for their baby to receive a screening from their regional early intervention office. This summer, four of the state’s busiest licensed midwife birth centers began providing OAE hearing screenings to their babies through an agreement with Idaho Sound Beginnings which included the long term use of OAE equipment and the provision of training on screening technique and protocols, as well as long term support for these programs.

Five more hospitals have been awarded grants to assist with upgrading their screening equipment. 2011 grants have been awarded to Bonner General Hospital, Cassia RMC, Weiser Memorial Hospital, Clearwater Valley Hospital and St. Alphonsus-Nampa. The 2010 awardees were McCall Memorial Hospital, Franklin County Medical Center, Mountain View Hospital, St. Joseph’s RMC and St. Mary’s Hospital. Award amounts ranged from \$6-8,000 and were used towards the purchase of AABR screening equipment.

This February will be the 10th annual national EHDI conference to be hosted in Atlanta. The conference provides key stakeholders an opportunity to

promote collaboration and share best practices with state and federal programs. We're excited to have a team of five to represent Idaho EHDI including, the EHDI project coordinator, the Outreach Director for IESDB, a pediatric audiologist, a parent of children with hearing loss, and a deaf educator.

Research news:

New research has more firmly established the link between hearing loss and CMV viral infection. The results of a new study of 354 children aged 4 years and older, all of whom have different levels of hearing loss, showed that 9 percent of these children had CMV infection at the time of birth. The study also found that children who were CMV-positive at the time of birth had more severe forms of hearing loss than their CMV-negative peers. (*Archives of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery*)



Idaho Sound Beginnings staff and DUCK visited the Hearing Clinic at ISU while attending the Idaho Speech and Hearing Association Conference in Pocatello.



Ryder at the 2010 Idaho Academy of Family Physicians Conference.

New Developments for People with Hearing Loss

***By Shannon Gower, AuD
Doctor of Audiology &
CDHH board member***

There are two main types of hearing loss; conductive and sensorineural. People with each type of hearing loss can communicate with the help of technology. The focus of this article will focus on sensorineural hearing losses and some of the new developments in hearing aids that can help someone with this type of hearing loss.

Sensorineural hearing loss or “nerve deafness” is the most common type of hearing loss and is usually permanent. It affects the inner ear and/or the hearing nerve. There are different categories that describe how much hearing loss a person has such as mild, moderate, severe or profound. An individual with mild hearing loss will have problems hearing soft speech, speech from a distance or speech in noise. Someone with a moderate hearing loss will have problems hearing speech at normal levels even when the person speaking is close to them. A person with a severe hearing loss may only hear very loud speech or loud sounds in the environment. A profound hearing loss means they may not hear very loud speech or other very loud sounds. The treatment for sensorineural hearing loss depends on how much hearing loss an individual has. At this time hearing aids are the best treatment available for individuals with mild to severe hearing loss. Those who have severe to profound hearing loss, and cannot hear with hearing aids, but would like to have access to sound have options available such as cochlear implants.

Hearing aid technology is changing constantly. Hearing aids have not only become smaller, they can do more than the hearing aids of the past. The newest style trend in hearing aids is what is referred to as RITE (Receiver in the Ear). This hearing aid is appropriate for individuals with a mild to severe hearing loss. The hearing aid sits behind the ear and the receiver or the speaker is down inside the ear canal. The small size is appealing to many individuals. This type of hearing aid also helps with the plugged sensation or “talking in a barrel” sound that people may complain of with hearing aids that are completely in the ear or traditional behind the ear.

Not only are the hearing aids getting smaller they also have the capability to help you stay connected with the hearing world with much more ease than older hearing aids. Hearing aids are taking advantage of technologies such as Bluetooth. Bluetooth can send information without the use of wires within a 30 foot range. The hearing aids use Bluetooth to help people hear on the telephone, hear the television and listen to audio equipment such as MP3

players.

Several hearing aid companies have made it possible to hear the television without wearing any extra equipment. A small box is easily attached to the television and when the hearing impaired person walks into the room the hearing aids pick up the sound from the TV. The advantage of this type of device is that the person wearing the hearing aids can now hear the television directly through their hearing aids and can increase or decrease the volume without disturbing anyone else in the room.

Hearing aids can also be used with the telephone with greater ease by wearing a small loop around the neck or a small clip on the shirt collar. The telephone or cell phone is heard through both of the hearing aids, which makes hearing on the phone much easier for most people. The sound is clear without the static or buzzing sound that was problematic with some Telecoils. The phone only has to be within a 30 ft range and you can walk around and talk without having the phone up to your ear and hearing squealing from your hearing aids. With this new technology people should be able to hear better on the phone without taking their hearing aids out, which many people did to avoid the squealing of their hearing aids.

These are only a few of the new developments in technology available for those individuals with hearing loss. The technology is improving and constantly changing. Hearing aid companies are working to find ideas to help those with hearing loss have technology that can keep them competitive in a world of hearing. These options have made it much easier for many people to hear in situations that were very challenging in the past with older hearing aids. Those individuals with hearing loss can now take advantage of the same technologies available to those around them. Contact your local audiologist for more information.

Social Security Hosts a Live Closed Captioned Webinar, "Social Security 101"



On March 10th at 3:00 p.m. EST, Social Security will host a live webinar, "Social Security 101: What's in it for me?" This webinar is designed to reach young adults, ages 18-24, and will explore how Social Security works - how it's funded, what the FICA tax is, and how the program is relevant to college students and young workers. The

webinar will also include tips on saving and planning for a secure financial future.

To register for the webinar, please go to www.socialsecurity.gov/webinars. The closed captioning will be available on webinar streaming.

Janette Lancaster Receives Deaf Leadership Award

Hamilton Relay Is Pleased to Recognize Janette Lancaster as the 2010 Deaf Community Leader for the State of Idaho.

Janette is a dedicated advocate for individuals who are deaf in the state of Idaho. She is an active member of the Idaho Association of the Deaf (IAD) and has served as past president, vice president and area representative. Currently, Janette serves on the IAD board and is their secretary.

Janette has been involved with a host of organizations including the Living Independent Network Corp. (LINC) for nine years; State of Independent Living Council (SILC) for six years; State Vocation Rehabilitation Council for six years; ADA Task Force for twelve years; and Comprehensive Advocacy (Co-AD) for six years. Through her involvement with these organizations, Janette's leadership skills were apparent through her service as chairman of LINC and SILC, and through chairing various committees involved with the ADA Task Force and Co-AD.

Janette is highly regarded and has been described as a silent advocate for individuals who are deaf – always helping without hesitation and always giving her best to the task at hand. Janette's leadership and commitment in serving individuals who are deaf in the state of Idaho is commendable and we congratulate her for her many accomplishments.

This leadership recognition has been brought to you by Hamilton Relay.

About Hamilton Relay

Hamilton Relay offers a variety of services including Traditional Relay Services, Captioned Telephone, and Internet Relay services. Hamilton provides Traditional Relay and/or Captioned Telephone services to 18 states, the District of Columbia, the Island of Saipan and the Virgin Islands. More information is available at www.hamiltonrelay.com.

Message from the President-Elect of Idaho Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (IRID)



*By Holly Thomas-Mowery
IRID President-Elect*

In the fall of 2010, I became President-Elect of the Idaho Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (IdahoRID). Shadowing our current President, LaVona Andrew, has been a remarkable learning experience and unquestionably will assist in my transition to President for the July 2011 – June 2013 term. I look forward to working closely with the interpreter liaison to the CDHH Board, Kathryn Montoya, and with the membership and fantastic board members of IdahoRID.

IdahoRID is an organization for all interpreters of the Deaf and hard of hearing. I am a strong proponent of collaboration and inclusion; to that end, IdahoRID plans to host a variety of training

opportunities across Idaho to meet every Idaho interpreter's professional development needs – benefiting interpreting students to veteran interpreters; and on topics including educational interpreting, medical interpreting, and other specialty settings. Likewise, we will continue to partner with the Deaf community – welcoming Deaf interpreters, Deaf presenters and other interested Deaf persons at every function.

To reach every interpreter in the state, we began webcasting our trainings. Although attending a workshop or membership meeting in-person is greatly preferred, the online format meets better the needs of interpreters who otherwise cannot participate in a live event. Innovative approaches will continue to be researched and tested via the talented, web-smart IdahoRID members of the Web Committee, and we welcome feedback on other avenues we may explore.

Please join us at the **PARTNERS Now!** conference, being held August 11-13, 2011, in Boise and hosted by IdahoRID, Idaho Association of the Deaf (IAD), Deaf Center of Idaho (DCI), and CDHH. The workshop reflects our renewed commitment to “**People and Resources Together: Nurturing, Empowering, Respecting & Succeeding.**” Consider attending if you are Deaf, in a deaf-related field, are the parent or family member of a Deaf child, or an interpreter. Information about the conference can be found at www.idahorid.org/conference.

Several years ago, IdahoRID worked with CDHH and other partners to pass legislation requiring interpreters in K-12 settings to meet minimum qualification standards. At the same time, we worked with school districts,

IESDB, and the State Dept of Education as part of a team to provide extensive training, mentoring and support for interpreters to meet those requirements. Our next undertaking is to look at the qualification standards of interpreters in other fields—including medical and legal interpreting. In partnership with Idaho Association of the Deaf, IdahoRID has formed a task force to collect stakeholder input, gather data, and make recommendations. During the PARTNERS Now! conference, a forum will be held for you to share your views. More information about this task force will be in future CDHH newsletters.

This is an exciting time to be involved in our profession, and I look forward to serving in this new role. Please contact me as needed, and see you in August!

Holly Thomas-Mowery (president@idahorid.org)

Idaho Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (IdahoRID) is the only state-wide membership organization representing more than 200 professionals who facilitate communication between people who are deaf or hard of hearing and people who can hear. It is an affiliate chapter of the national Registry of the Interpreters of the Deaf, a tax-exempt 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. Idaho RID's role is to support our membership by providing the foundation needed to launch and sustain careers while ensuring quality service to the Deaf community. Learn more at www.idahorid.org or www.rid.org .

Council Seeks Nominations

Call for Nominations for One More Board Member

The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing consists of nine members appointed by the Governor. They have terms of one to three years, and every year there are three members whose terms expire. Article II, Section 3 of the Council's by-law requires the Council to advertise nominations for new Council members.

The vacant position up for appointment:

- **A member who is a parent of a deaf child**

The position of Council member is one of leadership and includes the power to establish policy and govern. Such leadership implies the acceptance of a high commitment to work for the broad purposes and the objectives of the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. A council member's wisdom, counsel, and support are vital to the success to the mission of the Council.

Responsibilities

1. Give special knowledge and skills individually and through committee efforts to pursue established goals.
2. Serve on committees, as needed, in the area of interest and expertise.
3. Attend regularly scheduled quarterly meetings or notify Executive Director or Chairperson of non-attendance.
4. Provide constructive guidance and advice to the Council, its officers, and the Executive Director on all matters affecting the best interest of the Council's programs, financial stability, and governing procedures.
5. Review and approve an annual budget.
6. Represent the Council to the member's constituency and the public.
7. Keep the Council informed about activities of the organization or constituency the member represents and make sure that the Council is aware of problems being encountered by the member's constituency or organization.
8. Serve as an advocate for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Advocate for improving communication access, for identifying of children with hearing loss and for an increase in services to assist people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
9. Serve as a resource in the community for issues faced by people in the community who are deaf or hard of hearing and for providing information on accommodations and auxiliary services that can improve communication access.

The Council meets four times annually. The Council pays for travel, lodging and meal expenses.

Please contact the Council office for an application for nomination or [click here](#) to reach the website to download the application.

You also can submit the application to the Governor's office directly.

Please click the hyperlink:

http://gov.idaho.gov/boards/BoardApplication_EntryForm.cfm

Demonstration and Loan Centers Continue to Serve the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals Throughout the State

Since 1999, The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has partnered with various agencies throughout the state to provide assistive devices to be borrowed by people with hearing loss. The Idaho Center for Assistive

Technology through a grant from the University of Idaho provides a small subsidy program that a person can apply to received assistance in the purchase price of the equipment. The subsidy program is based on an individual's income, and the Council encourages those in need to apply.

The equipment includes TTY's, amplified telephones, voice carry over telephones, clocks, smoke detectors, alerting devices for doors and phones, personal amplifying devices, and baby monitors.

The following is a chart of the equipment provided through the subsidy program.

Equipment Provided
TTYs
Amplified Phones
VCO Phones
Sound Wizard
TV Listening System
Smoke Detector
Clock
Alertmaster for Phone and Door
PocketTalker
Krown Speak and Read
Baby Monitor
Phone Amp.

The following is a table depicting the total amount of equipment provided through the subsidy program city by city since 1999.

Boise (ICAT)	98
Coeur D'Alene (DAC)	41
Moscow (DAC)	23
Idaho Falls (LIFE)	50
Burley (LIFE)	4
Pocatello (LIFE)	1
Twin Falls (Easter Seals/LINC)	57
Idaho State University	13
Caldwell	23
Total	310

Below is a comment from one of the users of this program:

"I'm writing to tell you how the pocket talker has made a difference in our life. When the television is on it can be at a normal tone and it helps me to not have to scream above it when I have something to say, also I don't have the slight headaches that I used to get with the volume being so high. My husband says that he can hear what the people on television are saying and it is not such a blur. We haven't tried it out yet when we go out, but I'm sure it will help him to hear well. Thank you so much for introducing the pocket talker to us." Katharina Burns – Nampa

Council Partners with PEPNet and IESDB in the "Tools for Life" Road Trip

The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will join in a week-long "Tools for Life" road trip with Post Education Program Network (PEPNet) and IESDB starting March 7 through 11.

The trip will commence at the 'Tools for Life' conference in Idaho Falls. CDHH, PEPNet and IESDB will be giving workshops, trainings in several cities including Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Twin Falls, Gooding and ends at Boise.

We will train the following groups: secondary educators, post-secondary educators, special education staff, therapists, counselors, service providers, job developers, other rehabilitation specialists such as vocational rehabilitation counselors, deaf and hard of hearing high school and college students. We also will be meeting with the City of Boise's office on Housing and Development (HUD) to discuss the community access issues/needs for the deaf and hard of hearing people. The trainings, presentations would be heavily emphasized on higher education, employment, self-advocacy, self-direction, community life, assistive technology and more.

The members of the tour group are: CDHH Executive Director, Steven Snow, Ann Flannery, Steven Birkby (Post-secondary transition specialists), and Timothy Chevalier (PEPNet Representative).

Save the Date: Deaf Awareness Day at Roaring Springs

Deaf Awareness Day
at



July 23rd, 2011
400 West Overland Road
Meridian, ID 83642

A flyer is coming soon

Help Revitalize Idaho Hands & Voices!



**HANDS &
VOICES™**

Thursday, March 10th

6:30 pm

St. Luke's Meridian

Paiute Room (basement)

Join us for an informal discussion meeting to:

- let you know more about H&V
- find out what you'd like to see H&V doing in the future
- see what you can do to help H&V.

We **NEED** more board members, other current members, and **NEW** members to take on some projects and offer new ideas in order to help move us forward. Please pass on the invitation to any other parents/students/professionals interested in ensuring the successful outcomes for Idaho's deaf and hard of hearing children!

Pizza and water will be provided.

To RSVP:

Lesa Coleman
lesacoleman@gmail.com
939-3969

*Idaho Hands & Voices is a parent driven,
non-profit organization dedicated to supporting families with
children who are deaf or hard of hearing without a bias around
communication modes or methodology.*

4th Annual Deaf Center of Idaho Egg Hunt



**4th Annual
Deaf Center of Idaho
Easter
EGG HUNT**

Saturday April 16th
10a.m.-12p.m.
10:30a.m. egg hunt begins

Storey Park
Franklin Rd &
Main St,
Meridian

Signing Easter
Bunny

Come hunt
for eggs
All ages are
welcome to come

If you would like to donate
candy or prizes, or to
volunteer with preparations,
contact Tara Adams at
tara@rainboise.com

Come and Visit Us on Facebook



In an effort to enhance communications with the public and deaf/hard of hearing community it serves, the Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing has created an organizational page on the social networking website- Facebook.

More and more people are turning to the Web and 'social media' sites to share and receive updated information. As a state agency serving deaf and hard of hearing populations we need to have a presence in those places- especially Facebook. Facebook allows us to add and share information with our stakeholders on a timely fashion and quickly.

Our Facebook page mostly will include events, updated information on current issues, photos, links, resources, and announcements that may be of interest to the community. Videos in sign language will be posted periodically. Currently the page might look somewhat basic at this point but more information will gradually be added as time goes on.

To access the CDHH Facebook page, simply log into Facebook and enter "Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing" in the "search" window or click on the hyperlink: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Idaho-Council-for-the-Deaf-and-Hard-of-Hearing/170355286330871>.

Mark Your Calendar: Jointed Conference Hosted by IAD/IRID- August 11-13

Mark your calendar and save the date! The Idaho Association of the Deaf (IAD) and Idaho Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf (Idaho RID) announce a joint conference for August 11-13, 2011, at the Boise Hotel and Conference Center. We invite all members of the Deaf community and related professions to join us. Presentations will be provided for Deaf and hard of hearing people, Parents whose children have hearing loss, Interpreters, and other professionals who work with the deaf and hard of hearing. IAD and Idaho RID are pleased to partner with the Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Deaf Center of Idaho to offer this conference. More information can be found at www.idahorid.org/conference

February 11, 2011 Council Meeting Summary

The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing held a Board meeting via teleconference on February 11, 2011.

Among items discussed were:

- 2011 – 2012 Budget
- Legislative Issues currently in the Legislature that could impact the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community
- Priorities update: Mental Health Task Force
- New Board Members
- Smoke Alarm Pilot Program
- Assistive Technology Equipment

The next meeting of the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will be

SATURDAY, May 14, 2011.

9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

BEST WESTERN VISTA INN AT THE AIRPORT

2645 Airport Way

Boise, Idaho

(208) 336-8100

How to Find Captioned Movies?



It's simple! Just go to
www.captionfish.com
and enter your location!

Names of Deaf-Friendly Businesses Sought



The Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is soliciting information about deaf friendly businesses throughout Idaho. If you know of a business or a professional office that is especially deaf friendly please contact the Council as we will be creating a directory of those businesses. You can email the information to Cindy at schreinc@dhw.idaho.gov. We look forward to hearing from you and are excited about this new endeavor.

Do you want to add your email address on our mailing list to subscribe CDHH quarterly e-Newsletter or other announcements?

Send email to: Steven Snow, Executive Director
Snows2@dhw.idaho.gov